

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 CG-00

COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 /225 R

DRAFTED BY L/OA:MBWEST:JV

8/24/73 EX22658

APPROVED BY L/OA:HDCAMITTA

IO/UNP - MR. SCULLY

S/FW-COA - MR. BRITTIN

PM/ISO - MR. HAGERTY

AF/RA - COL. COYKENDALL

DEFENSE - CDR. DEROCHE

AF/E - MR. MELONE

INR/DFR/RGE - DR. HODGSON (SUBS)

----- 052288

R 242025Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 169086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ET, OAU

SUBJECT: LOS - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ISLAND

PROPOSALS

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA 9855, (B) STATE 165120

A. DRAFT ARTICLE ON ISLANDS INTRODUCED BY CAMEROON, KENYA, MADAGASCAR, TUNISIA AND TURKEY PROVIDES THAT MARITIME SPACE AROUND ISLANDS WILL BE DETERMINED BY SPECIFIED FACTORS RATHER THAN PROVIDING THAT FULL TERRITORIAL EFFECT WILL BE GIVEN TO EVERY ISLAND. TEXT OF PROPOSAL FOLLOWS:

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BEGIN TEXT. 1. MARITIME SPACES OF ISLANDS SHALL BE DETERMINED ACCORDING TO EQUITABLE PRINCIPLES TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL RELEVANT FACTORS AND CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING, INTER ALIA:

- (A) THE SIZE OF ISLANDS;
- (B) THE POPULATION OR THE ABSENCE THEREOF;
- (C) THEIR CONTINGUITY TO THE PRINCIPAL TERRITORY;
- (D) WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE SITUATED ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF ANOTHER TERRITORY;

- (E) THEIR GEOLOGICAL AND GEOMORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE AND CONFIGURATION.

2. ISLAND STATES AND THE REGIME OF ARCHIPALAGIC STATES AS SET OUT UNDER THE PRESENT CONVENTION SHALL NOT BE AFFECTED BY THIS ARTICLE. END TEXT.

B. OTHER DRAFT ARTICLES ON ISLANDS INTRODUCED BY GREECE; TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT. 1. AN ISLAND IS A NATURALLY FORMED AREA OF LAND, SURROUNDED BY WATER WHICH IS ABOVE WATER AT HIGH-TIDE.

2. AN ISLAND FORMS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THE STATE TO WHICH IT BELONGS. THE TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLAND EXTENDS TO ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS, TO THE AIR SPACE OVER THE ISLAND AND ITS TERRITORIAL SEA AND TO ITS BED AND SUBSOIL AND TO ITS CONTINENTAL SHELF FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXPLORING IT AND EXPLOITING ITS NATURAL RESOURCES.

3. THE TERRITORIAL AREA OF THE ISLAND IS DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SAME PROVISIONS APPLICABLE FOR THE MEASUREMENTS OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA OF THE CONTINENTAL PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THE STATE.

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4. THE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND THE ZONES OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION OF THE CONTINENTAL PART OF THE STATE ARE AS A GENERAL RULE APPLICABLE TO ISLANDS.

5. THE ABOVE PROVISIONS DO NOT PREJUDICE THE REGIME OF ARCHIPELAGIC ISLANDS. END TEXT.

MALTA HAS ALSO INTRODUCED ARTICLES DEALING PRIMARILY WITH ISLAND STATES, ARCHIPELAGOS AND ATOLLS.

C. QUESTION OF ISLANDS IS COMPLEX AND WE HAVE NOT RPT. NOT FORMULATED FORMAL POSITION ON SUBJECT. HOWEVER, ISSUE IS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION BY LOS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE. IN THIS CONNECTION GEOGRAPHER OF DEPARTMENT IS UNDERTAKING EXTENSIVE REVIEW OF ISLAND QUESTION. WHEN POSITION IS DECIDED IT WILL BE COMMUNICATED AS APPROPRIATE.

D. REF B, PARAGRAPHS 7 THRU 16 OF WHICH DISCUSS ISLAND QUESTION, BEING REPEATED TO YOU FYI ONLY.

E. DEPT ASSUMES THAT REFERENCE TO ETHIOPIA'S "NORTHERN" ISLANDS IN PARA 2 REF A REFERS TO DAHLAC ARCHIPELAGO. DEPARTMENT INTERESTED IF EMBASSY HAS KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT ETHIOPIANS MEAN BY THEIR "SOUTHERN" ISLANDS, ALSO REFERRED TO IN PARA 2, REF. A. DOES THIS REFER TO THE HALEB GROUP, OR ALTERNATIVELY TO THE SOUTHERN ISLANDS CLOSER TO YEMEN SUCH AS ZUBAYR, ZUGAR, TA'IR, AND THE HANISH GROUP. IF EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW THESE FACTS, DEPT NOT RPT NOT REQUESTING THAT EMBASSY SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM ETHIOPIANS. IN VIEW OF REPORTED UPCOMING ETHIOPIAN-YEMEN NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT RED SEA ISLANDS IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE TO BRING UP SUBJECT.

F. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY MAY INDICATE USG REVIEWING ISLAND QUESTION AND WOULD WELCOME ETHIOPIAN VIEWS
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ON QUESTION. RUSH

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